

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

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1. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition of treatment for a patient with ulcerative colitis comprising a drug which can selectively kill *Fusobacterium varium* cells.

2. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition of treatment for a patient with ulcerative colitis comprising a drug which can neutralize the toxin produced by *Fusobacterium varium* cells.

3. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition of treatment for a patient with ulcerative colitis comprising a drug which can inhibit the adhesion of *Fusobacterium varium* cells to the intestinal mucosa.

4. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition of treatment for a patient with ulcerative colitis comprising a drug which can inhibit the invasion of *Fusobacterium varium* cells into the intestinal mucosa.

C 5. (Withdrawn) A vaccine for preventing ulcerative colitis from infection with *Fusobacterium varium* comprising a drug as set forth in claim 1.

6. (Withdrawn) A vaccine for preventing ulcerative colitis from infection with *Fusobacterium varium* comprising a drug as set forth in claim 2.

7. (Withdrawn) A vaccine for preventing ulcerative colitis from infection with *Fusobacterium varium* comprising a drug as set forth in claim 3.

8. (Withdrawn) A vaccine for preventing ulcerative colitis from infection with *Fusobacterium varium* comprising a drug as set forth in claim 4.

9. (Withdrawn) A method for screening a drug for selectively killing *Fusobacterium varium* cells comprising the step of administering a drug to be examined to an experimental

model of *Fusobacterium varium*-infection to thus select a drug, which can selectively kill the bacterium.

10. (Withdrawn) A method for screening a therapeutic agent for ulcerative colitis comprising the step of administering a candidate drug which selectively kills the bacterium in a patient with ulcerative colitis and positive to *Fusobacterium varium* to thus select a drug capable of improving the symptoms of the patients suffering from the disease.

11. (Withdrawn) An animal as a model of ulcerative colitis obtained by administering a toxin produced by *Fusobacterium varium* to an animal.

12. (Withdrawn) The animal model of ulcerative colitis as set forth in claim 11, wherein the toxin is butyric acid.

13. (Withdrawn) An animal as a model for ulcerative colitis comprising living *Fusobacterium varium* cells adhered to the mucosa.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Withdrawn) An agent for making a diagnosis of ulcerative colitis comprising an antibody against *Fusobacterium varium*, which has the highest detection sensitivity and the highest specificity.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for making a diagnosis of ulcerative colitis caused by *Fusobacterium varium* in a patient, which comprises ~~the steps of:~~

- (a) obtaining sera from said patient; ~~and~~
- (b) detecting an antibody ~~against~~ specific for *Fusobacterium varium* in said sera; ~~and~~
- (c) correlating the presence of an antibody specific for *Fusobacterium varium* in said sera with ulcerative colitis.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein said antibody is detected using western blotting method.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein said antibody is detected using enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA).

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SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claim 16 has been amended.

The amendment of Claim 16 is supported by original Claim 14 and in the description on page 5, lines 7 to 11, and page 9, lines 2 to 6, of the specification.

No new matter is believed to have been entered by the present amendment.